AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Original)   A command input device comprising:

contact time detection means for detecting a time period for which a finger or a pen is in continual contact with a touch panel display;

contact number detection means for detecting the number of times the finger or the pen touched the touch panel display;

contact interval detection means for detecting a time period between when the finger or the pen is detached from the touch panel display and when the finger or the pen is brought into contact therewith afterwards;

input determination means for determining an input command based on the detection results obtained from the contact time detection means, the contact number detection means, and the contact interval detection means;

operation selection means for selecting, among predetermined operations, an operation associated with the input command based on the input command determined by the input determination means; and

operation control means for executing the operation selected by the operation selection means.

Claim 2 (Original)   The command input device according to claim 1, wherein the detection result obtained from the input determination means is unaffected by a contact position of the finger or the pen on the touch panel display.

Claim 3 (original)   The command input device according to claim 1 further comprising input combination setting means for arbitrarily setting association relationships between the detection results obtained from the contact time detection means, the contact number detection means, and the contact interval detection means and the input command determined, based on the detection results, by the input determination means.

Claim 4 (Original)   The command input device according to claim 1 further comprising operation setting means for arbitrarily setting association relationships

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between the input command determined by the input determination means and the operation selected, based on the input command, by the operation selection means.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended)   The command input device according to claim 1 further comprising:

vibration detection means for detecting vibration; and

erroneous operation preventing means for preventing a chattering effect when the finger or the pen touches the touch panel,

wherein a time interval between contacts of the finger or the pen determined, by the erroneous operation preventing means, as chattering varies based on the detection result obtained from the vibration detection means.

Claim 6 (Original)   The command input device according to claim 1, wherein the contact time detection means distinguishes between two or more states in accordance with the time length of continual contact.

Claim 7 (Original)   The command input device according to claim 1, wherein the contact time detection means is capable of arbitrarily setting a length by which the time period of continual contact is distinguished.

Claim 8 (Original)   The command input device according to claim 1, wherein the contact interval detection means is capable of arbitrarily setting a time period for a command input to be ended.